Volum 24, Issue 1 WINTER 2017-18



Early Times

Infant and Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/itc

The Vision of the Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church is:

All infants and toddlers with a developmental need are identified, supported, accepted, included and valued in their family and community.



ITC's SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE





Kellie Ortiz Kellie, South region Service Coordinator, has volunteered to par-

ticipate in South County's parent support group, Cox Farms, and helped establish the Volunteer Reader program through the Neighborhood School Readiness Team, among many others. Thank you, Kellie, for your outstanding support of ITC family events!



Jessica
Sherman
Jessica, North
region Service
Coordinator,
has volunteered for mul-

tiple sessions of the Pathways to Preschool summer program throughout her years with ITC. She plays an integral role in setting up ITC's annual graduation event. She also participates in various community outreach events throughout the year. Thank you, Jessica, for your time and talents!



Blanca
Siles
Blanca, East
region Service
Coordinator is
always willing
to lend a help-

ing hand at family events in her region and ITC as a whole. She supported ITC's graduation and Pathways to Preschool program this summer, and facilitated the Lil' Giggles playgroup and Busy Bees Extraordinary Kids Night Thank you, Blanca, for your unwavering support in ITC!



Silvia Zaleta-Meza

The ITC family would like to send an enormous thank you to Family

Support Liaison Silvia Zaleta-Meza for her 3 years of service and dedication to the mission and values of ITC.

"Silvia has been a great support to the South County team. She contributed greatly to create a more positive work environment by establishing and promoting multiple family activities in the community. Her efforts have enabled staff to have a new enthusiasm and passion about the mission of ITC." – Cecilia Herola-Morris, Regional Manager

Kids 'N Motion Is Expanding!

With much success during our pilot program and our recent popularity at Southgate Community Center, our Kids 'N Motions program will be expanding this winter! It will now be offered at the Mott Community Center in Fairfax and at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church. We are so thankful for our partnership with Neighborhood and Community Services of Fairfax County!

Mott Community Center: January 8, 22, 29, and February 5, 12.

James Lee Community Center: January 10, 17, 24, 31, and February 7

COX FARMS FALL FESTIVAL 2017

By: Mia Batson



On a warm, windy morning in September, over 80 ITC families enjoyed a special day at Cox Farms. Totaling 300, with parents and children, and joined by 20 ITC staff, we ventured all over Cox Farms' Fall Festival. Cox's Fall Festival boasts

over 40 acres of activities, including a hay ride, big slides, and live animals. ITC staff worked the welcome table, as well as enjoyed spending time with the kids out in the

play areas. "We had such a special day," said parent Dawn Moore. "Mackenzie and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves playing on the tractor and feeding the goats!" Cox has many wood frame cut-outs and families enjoyed taking pictures in the fall-themed frames, as well as taking family pictures to make memories. Said one parent as she snapped hundreds of pictures on her phone, "There is nothing cuter than a baby in a wagon of pumpkins!" The Fall Festival is extremely popular, with between 40,000 and 50,000 visiting in the month of October. Said co-owner Gina Cox, "We probably have about 1,000 people per weekday, and a couple thousand each day of the weekend. But we're happy to extend the invitation to the Infant Toddler Connection community." Cox Farms generously provided the tickets for ITC families at no cost.







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A Great BIG THANK YOU to our Pathways to Preschool program volunteers!

This past summer these individuals supported families transition to preschool classrooms by volunteering time in their already busy schedules to engage with children in the classroom and facilitate discussions with parents. Without volunteers, the Pathways to Preschool program would not be possible!

Service Coordinators: Bonnie Arjona, Katie Boyd, Amanda Carrington, Scott Evans, Tecquinette Fogle, Terry Gilmartin, Dorion Golback, Kimberly Harris, Nosheen Khan, Harae Na, Meghann McConnell, Deon McCutchen, Kellie Ortiz, Francia Salas, Blanca Siles, and Jessica Sherman

Social Workers: Naomi Grinney, Christina Huie, Abi McAlister, and Erin Preuss

Community Volunteer: Jake Kandel



If you are the parent of a child who received Early Intervention services, then you are uniquely qualified to support other families. Please consider joining our ITC

Regional Family Support Liaison Team.

Regional Family Support Liaisons are parents whose child has received early inter-

vention services in the past, and are exceptionally suited to assist and encourage current ITC families.

Regional Family Support Liaisons provide information and resources and mentor new families in conjunction with ITC Service Coordinators. Responsibilities include:

planning and coordinating activities for current ITC families those new to ITC developing community partnerships and supporting events and activities for ITC families

guiding families and early intervention providers to appropriate resources, support groups, parent-to-parent groups, and linking new ITC families with other ITC families

If you are interested in working part- time and becoming a member of the Regional Family Support Liaison team, contact Melissa Davis, Family Support Liaison Advisor, at 703-246-5347 or Melissa.davis2@fairfaxcounty.gov.



TRANSITION WORKSHOP By: Karen Mead

A Transition Workshop was held on Saturday, December 2 at Joseph Willard Health Center for parents of ITC children who turned two by September 30, 2017.

Parents interested in gaining further information about transition planning and Fairfax County Public Schools Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) services met with Jennie Smith, ECSE Specialist. Jennie presented a Transition Planning overview about Fairfax County Public Schools ECSE with more in-depth information on how Service Coordinators support families and children as they consider next steps. This information is designed to help parents make decisions based on their priorities for their child. In addition, Jennie is the parent of two special needs children and has many years of early childhood special education teaching experience. She is passionate about insuring parents receive information which supports their making informed decisions related to the path that they will take as they support their child's transition.

If you are curious about the transition process we hope that you will join us for the upcoming Transition Workshop and Resource Fair in early Spring 2018. More information to come from your Service Coordinator!

A Note from the Director...

Welcome to Winter

Hello to everyone in our ITC family. As we move into the Winter season it is good time to remind everyone about our policies that help to keep everyone healthy and safe. If anyone in your home is sick, we ask that you contact your provider and cancel your appointment. It is important that during this season of staying indoors we make sure that we are not moving germs from one home to the other. Although we make a point to observe health department handwashing recommendations, it is always better to be safe than sorry with this very young and vulnerable population. In addition, we follow Fairfax County Public Schools weather related closings in order to keep our mobile workforce safe.

So bundle up, keep your friends and family close, and enjoy the colder weather!

By: Susan Sigler, CCC-SLP, Acting Director

- * When public schools are CLOSED due to hazardous driving conditions all assessments, reviews & sessions IN THE HOME/DAYCARE are cancelled.
- * When public schools announce they will CLOSE EARLY due to hazardous driving conditions all assessments, reviews & sessions IN THE HOME/DAYCARE scheduled after the announcement are cancelled.
- * When public schools announce a LATE OPENING due to hazardous driving conditions all assessments, reviews & sessions IN THE HOME/DAYCARE beginning before 10:00 am are cancelled.
- * When public schools are not in session (school holiday) AND Fairfax County Government has unscheduled leave in effect assessments, reviews & sessions IN THE HOME/DAYCARE are cancelled.





Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church

3750 Old Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030 Phone: 703-246-7121 Fax: 703-653-1385

Monday, December 4 - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Kid Junction: Exceptional Kids Night 4090 Lafayette Center Drive, Suite E

Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Tuesday, December 5 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Sensory Story Time. Sherwood Hall Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Alexandria, VA 22306

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Tuesday, December 5 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave.

McLean, VA 22101

Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, December 6 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Friendly Story Time. Richard Byrd Library 7250 Commerce Street Springfield, VA 22150

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-

Wednesday, December 6, 13, 20, 27 - 10 - 10:45am Sensational Explorers (Registration is limited to 5 children per 4 week session, must register)

Providence Community Center 3001 Vaden Dr.

Fairfax, VA 22031

Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Thursday, December 7 - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Thursday, December 7 - 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Dad's Pizza Night

Joseph Willard Health Center (rear entrance)

3750 Old Lee Hwy Fairfax, VA 22030

Contact: mark@nurturechildandfamily.com or 703-655-7694

Friday, December 8 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Storytime Pohick Library 6450 Sydenstricker Rd. Burke, VA 22015

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Monday, December 11 - 10:30 a.m. Winter Craft/Playtime Centreville Library 14200 St. Germain Drive Centreville, VA 20121

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-1391 / mia.batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or (703)223-1392

Tuesday, December 12 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time

Herndon Fortnightly Library

768 Center St. Herndon, VA 20170

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, December 13 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Storytime

City of Fairfax Regional Library

10360 North Street Fairfax, VA 22030

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Wednesday, December 13 - 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 pm

ITC Storytime and Playtime Chantilly Library 4000 Stringfellow Rd Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Thursday, December 14th - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Friday, December 15 - 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Music with Myra Therapeutic Rhythms Office 441D Carlisle Drive Herndon, VA 20170

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Tuesday, December 19 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA 22101

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

January

Tuesday, January 2 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Sensory Story Time Sherwood Hall Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria VA 22306

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Tuesday, January 2 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA 22101

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, January 3 - 11:30 a.m.

ITC Friendly Story Time. Richard Byrd Library 7250 Commerce Street Springfield, VA 22150

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Wednesday, January 3, 10, 17, and 24 - 10-10:45 a.m. Sensational Explorers (Registration is limited to 5 children

per 4 week session, must register) Providence Community Center

3001 Vaden Drive Fairfax, VA 22031

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Thursday, January 4th - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Thursday, January 4 - 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Dad's Pizza Night

Joseph Willard Health Center (rear entrance)

3750 Old Lee Hwy Fairfax, VA 22030

Contact: mark@nurturechildandfamily.com or 703-655-

Friday, January 5 - 10:30 a.m.

ITC Story Time

Herndon Fortnightly Library

768 Center St. Herndon, VA 20170

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Friday, January 5 - 10 am - 12 pm

ITC Playtime - Bubbles, Parachute, and Smiles!

Chantilly Library 4000 Stringfellow Rd. Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Monday, January 8, 22, 29; February 5, 12 -- 11:15 a.m.-12

Kids 'N Motion (registration is required)

Mott Community Center 12111 Braddock Road Fairfax, VA 22030

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Wednesday, January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7 - 10:30-

Kids 'N Motion (registration is required)

James Lee Community Center 2855 Annandale Rd. Falls Church, VA 22042

Contact IIse.Rothenberg@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Thursday, January 11 - 10 -11:30 a.m.

ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup

8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Thursday, January 11 - 10:30 a.m.

Winter Craft/Playtime

Tyson's-Pimmit Regional Library

7584 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22043

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-1391 / Ilse.rothenberg@fairfaxcounty.gov or (703)223

Friday, January 12 – 11 a.m. - 12 p.m

Music with Myra Goodrich (registration is required)

South County Human Services Building 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Mia.Batson@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Friday, January 12 - 10 a.m. King of Kings Playgroup 4025 Kings Way Fairfax, VA 22033

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Volum 24, Issue 1 Page 3 Tuesday, January 16 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA 22101

Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, January 17 - 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 pm ITC Storytime and Playtime Chantilly Library 4000 Stringfellow Rd. Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Thursday, January 18 - 10 to 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G Alexandria, VA 22309 Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Wednesday, January 24 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Storytime Pohick Library 6450 Sydenstricker Rd. Burke, VA 22015

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Thursday, January 25 - 10 to 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Friday, January 26 - 10:30 a.m. Wee Got the Beat music class with Ms. Beth (Registration Herndon Fortnightly Library 768 Center St. Herndon, VA 20170 Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-1391

Monday, January 29 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Meet and Greet at the Parent Resource Center (Registration is required) Parent Resource Center 2334 Gallows Road, Room 105 Dunn Loring, Virginia 22027 703-204-3941 Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

February

Thursday, February 1 - 10 to 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G Alexandria, VA 22309 Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Thursday, February 1 - 6 - 7:30 p.m. Dad's Pizza Night Joseph Willard Health Center (rear entrance) 3750 Old Lee Hwy Fairfax, VA 22030 Contact: mark@nurturechildandfamily.com or 703-655-7694

Friday, February 2 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Herndon Fortnightly Library 768 Center St. Herndon, VA 20170

Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Friday, February 2 -- 10 a.m. King of Kings Playgroup 4025 Kings Way Fairfax, VA 22033

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Monday, February 5 - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Kid Junction: Exceptional Kids Night 4090 Lafayette Center Drive, Suite E Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Tuesday, February 6 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Sensory Story Time Sherwood Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane Alexandria, VA 22306

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Tuesday, February 6 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA 22101 Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, February 7 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Richard Byrd Library 7250 Commerce Street Springfield, VA 22150

Contact: Melissa.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov or 571-288-4536

Wednesday, February 7, 14, 21, 28 - 10-10:45 a.m. Sensational Explorers (Registration is limited to 5 children per 4 week session, must register) Providence Community Center 3001 Vaden Drive Fairfax, VA 22031 Contact: Carolina. Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Thursday, February 8th - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Monday, February 12 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Storytime Pohick Library 6450 Sydenstricker Rd. Burke, VA 22015

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Tuesday, February 13 - 10:30 a.m. Fun with Friends Playgroup Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McLean, VA 22101

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Thursday, February 15 - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G

Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Friday, February 16 - 10:00 a.m. King of Kings Playgroup 4025 Kings Way Fairfax, VA 22033

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Friday, February 23 - 10:30 a.m.

Wee Got the Beat music class with Ms. Beth (Registration is required)

Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Dr. Reston, VA 20190

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Saturday, February 17 - 3:15 p.m. - 5:15 pm ITC Playtime - Bubbles, Parachute, and Smiles!

Chantilly Library 4000 Stringfellow Rd. Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Tuesday, February 20 - 10:30 a.m. ITC Story Time Dolley Madison Library 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. McI ean. VA 22101

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

Wednesday, February 21 - 3:30 - 5:00 pm ITC Storytime and Playtime Chantilly Library 4000 Stringfellow Rd. Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact: Mia.Batson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-223-1392

Thursday, February 22 - 10 - 11:30 a.m. ITC Terrific Thursday Parent Support Playgroup 8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 515G Alexandria, VA 22309

Contact: Christina. Huie@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-704-

Friday, February 23 - 10:30 a.m.

Wee Got the Beat music class with Ms. Beth (Registration

Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Dr Reston, VA 20190

Contact: Carolina.Kasper@FairfaxCounty.gov or 703-223-

ITC's PURPOSE

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church provides early intervention supports and services to infants and toddlers from birth to age three who are not developing as expected or who have a medical condition that can delay normal development. Early intervention supports and services focus on increasing the child's participation in family and community activities that are important to the family. In addition, supports and services focus on helping parents and other caregivers know how to find ways to help the child learn during everyday activities. These supports and services are available for all eligible children and their families regardless of the family's ability to pay.



To request this information in an alternate format, call ITC-FFC, 703-246-7180, 703-538-5292 (TTY). Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations call ITC-FFC, 703-246-7180, 703-538-5292 (TTY) Please allow seven working days in advance of the event in order to make the necessary arrangements.

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